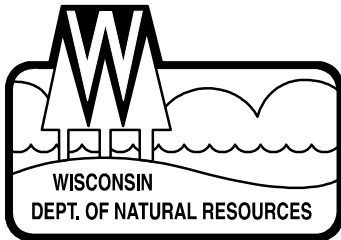


Jim Doyle, Governor
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State of Wisconsin \ DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

February 4, 2003

Mr. Chuck Lamine, Executive Director
Brown County Planning Department
100 N. Jefferson St., Rm. 608
Green Bay, WI 53707

Subject: Brown County SSA Plan Update Review

Dear Mr. Lamine:

We have received and reviewed your December 20th submittal of the Brown County SSA Plan Update. This plan was originally submitted to the Department as draft in summer/fall 2002, then resubmitted in response to DNR comments provided on October 24th (see attached), subsequent revisions, and Brown County Plan Commission resolution to forward the plan to DNR which took place December 4th, 2002.

While the Brown County Planning Department largely addressed DNR comments provided in October, the county did not produce a map of designated management areas (DMAs) as requested. Also, Map 5 and its implications surprised us. This map identifies areas of overlap between the Village of Howard and the Town of Suamico as well as the Town of Lawrence and the City of DePere. While DNR anticipated conflicting requests by communities, we did not anticipate that the final plan would be inconsistent with existing facilities plans, comprehensive plans, and with existing intergovernmental agreements. Further, it is our understanding that sufficient review by affected communities was not provided during the completion of this version of the map and plan.

If there are areas where continued discussions or negotiations are needed, DMA designations should reflect this need for future resolution -- for example, the overlap between areas requested by the Village of Howard and the Towns of Suamico and Pittsfield. Also, we question the proposed plan's inconsistency with the existing Suamico facility planning effort, your letter of concurrence for the Suamico Sanitary District No. 1 report (12/24/02), and the history of intergovernmental discussions for that area. We intend to approve the Suamico facility plan based on technical information and the Brown County letter of conformance unless we hear a technical reason for not doing so by Friday, February 14, 2003.

We believe that the utility of this sewer service area plan is largely diminished due to its inconsistency with existing documents that have a bearing on how, when and by whom development occurs in the Brown County area, and due to the lack of support by some of the communities involved. We would like these issues resolved prior to a re-submittal of the plan to DNR for administrative decision.

Please call me at your earliest convenience with any questions 608-266-1956.

Sincerely,

Charles R. Ledin, Section Chief
Great Lakes and Watershed Planning